

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**SB 1810 - HB 1716**

April 5, 2001

**SUMMARY OF BILL:**

- Creates the offense of aggravated cruelty to animals which includes any violent or other intentional act or knowing omission whereby severe and extreme physical pain, suffering, or death is caused or permitted, for which there exists no lawful or legitimate purpose or justification.
- Punishes such offense as a Class E felony.
- Allows the court to order the defendant to undergo psychological testing and evaluation.
- Provides that if a defendant convicted of such offense resides in a household with minor children or elderly individuals, the court shall notify the appropriate protective agencies.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$9,300/Incarceration\***

Assumes two Class E felony convictions each year. Also assumes additional state expenditures for court-ordered psychological evaluation and child and elderly protective services investigations; however, such increase is not estimates to be significant.

*\*Section 9-4-210, TCA, requires that: For any law enacted after July 1, 1986, which results in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state facilities, there shall be appropriated from recurring revenues the estimated operating cost of such law. The amount appropriated for operating cost, in current dollars, shall be based upon the highest cost of the next 10 years, beginning with the year the additional sentence to be served impacts the correctional facilities population.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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